



US009661004B1

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Glick et al.**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,661,004 B1**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **\*May 23, 2017**

(54) **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR USING REPUTATION INFORMATION TO EVALUATE THE TRUSTWORTHINESS OF FILES OBTAINED VIA TORRENT TRANSACTIONS**

(71) Applicant: **Symantec Corporation**, Mountain View, CA (US)

(72) Inventors: **Adam Glick**, Culver City, CA (US);  
**Nicholas Graf**, Culver City, CA (US);  
**Spencer Smith**, El Segundo, CA (US)

(73) Assignee: **Symantec Corporation**, Mountain View, CA (US)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 207 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

(21) Appl. No.: **14/065,394**

(22) Filed: **Oct. 28, 2013**

#### Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 12/880,581, filed on Sep. 13, 2010, now Pat. No. 8,627,463.

(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**G06F 11/00** (2006.01)  
**H04L 29/06** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**  
CPC ..... **H04L 63/1408** (2013.01); **H04L 63/145** (2013.01); **H04L 63/1416** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**  
CPC H04L 63/1416; H04L 63/1408; H04L 63/145  
USPC ..... 726/2, 22; 707/622; 709/225  
See application file for complete search history.

#### (56) References Cited

##### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

7,269,851 B2 9/2007 Ackroyd  
7,822,631 B1 \* 10/2010 Vander Mey ..... G06F 17/30038  
705/7.29  
7,831,412 B1 11/2010 Sobel et al.  
8,214,490 B1 \* 7/2012 Vos et al. .... 709/224  
(Continued)

##### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Wikipedia; "BitTorrent"; <http://liveweb.archive.org/web/20100409072349/http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BitTorrent>, as accessed on Apr. 27, 2010; (Apr. 4, 2010).  
about.com; "Visual Guide: The Top 35 Torrent Sites of 2010"; [http://netforbeginners.about.com/od/downloadingfiles/tp/torrent\\_search.html](http://netforbeginners.about.com/od/downloadingfiles/tp/torrent_search.html), as accessed on Apr. 27, 2010; (Apr. 2010).

(Continued)

*Primary Examiner* — Saleh Najjar

*Assistant Examiner* — Peiliang Pan

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — FisherBroyles LLP

#### (57) ABSTRACT

A computer-implemented method for using reputation information to evaluate the trustworthiness of files obtained via torrent transactions may include (1) identifying a torrent file that includes metadata for facilitating a torrent transaction for obtaining a target file via a peer-to-peer file-sharing protocol, (2) identifying at least one entity involved in the torrent transaction, (3) obtaining reputation information associated with the entity involved in the torrent transaction, wherein the reputation information identifies a community's opinion on the trustworthiness of the entity, (4) determining, based at least in part on the reputation information associated with the entity involved in the torrent transaction, that the target file represents a potential security risk, and then (5) performing a security action on the target file. Various other methods, systems, and computer-readable media are also disclosed.

**17 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets**

